Sick Units with the BIFR in Gujarat

4413. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sick units with the BIFR in Gujarat,

(b) the funds sanctioned to help them to start operation;

(c) the funds actually released to them; and

(d) the industries, other than textiles, proposed to be given BIFR support?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid of the Table of the House.

Export Group on Electronics Hardware Exports

4414. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up an expert group on electronics hardware exports; and

(b) what are the terms of reference ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The Government is in the process of setting up a Group to look into the various policy and procedural changes that are required to be introduced in electronic hardware sector so as to give a boost to exports in this sector.

New Exim Policy

4415. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that new Exim Policy for 2000-2001 has liberalized imports and lifted quantitative restrictions on imports on several items including consumer goods;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that such a step would have an adverse impact on the indigenous industries; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard as safeguard measures against dumping ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (d) In 1997 India had notified 2714 tariff lines to the WTO, imports of which were subject to quantitative restrictions for the balance of payment reasons. A plan for phased removal of these restrictions was also negotiated in 1997, which was revised in view of India's agreement with USA in December, 1999. In view of these commitments import restrictions on 714 tariff lines were removed on 31-03-2000. Some of these tariff lines pertain to consumer goods also.

All imports in the country are subject to applicable rates of customs duties and also subject to domestic laws, rules, orders, regulations, technical specifications and environmental safety norms as applicable to domestically produced goods. This should provide adequate protection to the domestic industry.

The imports arc being closely monitored and government would **strive** to ensure through appropriate use of tariff mechanism that imports do not cause any serious detriment or injury to the domestic industry.

To provide protection against dumping of foreign goods, the Directorate of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties, is already functioning in the Ministry of Commerce and suitable steps are being taken by the Directorate. In case of serious injury to the domestic market, safeguard duty can be imposed by the Safeguard Directorate in Ministry of Finance.

Industrialisation in U.P.

4416. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of industrial units set up in private/public sector during the last three years and till date, in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) the amount of capital investment made by these undertakings during this period; and

(c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government **in** this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The number of industrial units set up in